(c) the action taken by Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Anti Adulteration Cell of the Ministry conducted inspections based on specific information and complaints received by them.

(b) Anti Adulteration Cell (in the retail outlets inspected by it) had detected approximately 20% cases of sample failure and another 60% cases of some malpractices and possible adulteration during the period from July 2001 to July 2002.

(c) In all cases where adulteration/malpractices were detected, the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) concerned were asked to take action under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement.

Research on bio-diesel

2058. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether research on bio-diesel as an efficient, clean and natural energy alternative fuel to petroleum has been successful;

(b) if so, whether this diesel will be cheaper;

(c) if so, what will be its price;

(d) whether Government propose to put it to use on a large scale; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Bio-diesel will not be cheaper at the initial stage. However, once bio-diesel is available on a commercial scale, it will compete with the rates of diesel.

(d) and (e) A decision in this regard is yet to be taken by the Government.